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**Council on Ionizing Radiation Measurements and Standards**

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September 6, 2001

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Carol Hanlon  
U.S. Department of Energy  
Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Office  
P.O. Box 30307  
North Las Vegas  
Nevada 89036-0307

RE: COMMENT ON 66 FR 43850

Dear Ms. Hanlon:

On behalf of the Council on Ionizing Radiation Measurements and Standards, an organization whose members include leaders from the academic, governmental and industrial sectors dedicated to identifying the needs for new measurement technologies and the development of new standards in the field of ionizing radiation, I am writing to provide comments on the Preliminary Site Suitability Evaluation for the Yucca Mountain repository.

Based on the information contained in 66 FR 43850 and the documents provided on the Department of Energy's website, the recommendation of our organization is that the Yucca Mountain site is suitable for development as a repository for spent nuclear fuel and high level nuclear waste.

If it is determined by the Secretary of Energy that scientific analysis confirms the ability of the Yucca Mountain site to meet the applicable radiation protection standards established by the Environmental Protection Administration and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, it is also our recommendation that the Secretary should advise the President that work proceed on the site.

Sincerely,

Joseph C. McDonald, President  
Council on Ionizing Radiation Measurements and Standards